

Message Text

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21-12

ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 EB-11 L-03 AID-20 IGA-02

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INRE-00

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O 201125Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5878

UNCLAS KABUL 8016

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, BGEN, AF

SUBJECT: GENESCO YAQUB TANNING PROJECT

REFS: (A) STATE 227732 (B) STATE 226390

1. YAQUBS AND GOA MINISTRY OF MINES & INDUSTRIES (MMI)

OFFICIAL YUNUS RAFIQ INFORMS EMBASSY THAT (1) MMI HAS RESPONDED TO MIN FINANCE QUESTIONS, HAS RECEIVED VERBAL ASSURANCE THAT ANSWERS SATISFACTORY FOR MINFIN CLEARANCE; (2) NATIONAL BANK HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO RELEASE GENESCO FUNDS; (3) MIN COMMERCE PREPARED TO ISSUE LICENSE PENDING RECEIPT OF MIN FINANCE CLEARANCE. YUNUS RAFIQ STATES THAT IT IS STRICTLY A MATTER OF PAPERWORK, AND LICENSE WILL BE ISSUED IN A MATTER OF DAYS.

2. YUNUS RAFIQ FURTHER STATES THAT GOA WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH 60-40 UNDER CONDITIONS PREVIOUSLY STATED (I.E. CONVERSION TO 51-49 IN "TWO OR THREE YEARS"), OR WITH INITIAL 49-51 STATUS, IF GENESCO & YAQUBS CAN REACH AGREEMENT.

3. EMBASSY CONCURS WITH OPIC PREFERENCE (REF B) FOR SOME LONG-TERM IDBA PARTICIPATION, SO AS TO AVOID PROSPECT OF LATER RENEGOTIATION OF STATUS OF PROJECT. (FYI; IDBA HAS NOW RECEIVED LONG-AWAITED LEGAL STATUS AS PRESIDENT DAOUD SIGNED IDBA DECREE, AND MAY NOW BE MORE WILLING AND ABLE TO CONSIDER NEW PROPOSAL.) A PROPOSAL WHICH PROVIDES MAJORITY

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AFGHAN PARTICIPATION UNDER CONDITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO GENESCO

SEEMS BEST BET. YAQUBS, WHILE PREFERRING OLD PROPOSAL, WILL
PROBABLY GO ALONG WITH GENESCO DESIRES.

4. PLEASE ALSO PASS MESSAGE TO OPIC FROM COUNSEL TARAHI. HE
IS STILL AWAITING INDICATION OF HOW OPIC INTENDS TO PAY HIM. HE
IS SUSPENDING ANY ACTION PER REFTTEL B. ELIOT

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